CLAIMS

We claim:

1   1.   Method for representing business processes, comprising

2   the steps of:

3   defining each of a plurality of processes as a 3-tuple

4   including a noun, a verb and an attribute; and

5   displaying a selected process as a point in navigation

6   space.

1   2.   The method of claim 1, further comprising the steps of:

2   displaying selection lists, including a noun selection

3   list, a verb selection list and an attribute selection

4   list;

5   responsive to user selection of a 3-tuple including

6   noun, a verb and an attribute from said selection

7   lists, highlighting the point in navigation space

8   corresponding to said 3-tuple.

1   3.   The method of claim 1, further comprising the steps of:

2   responsive to user selection of a zoom in action in

3   connection with a selected process point, determining

4   if said selected process point is zoomable; and, if so

5   highlighting in a new navigation space the process

6   points referenced by selected process point

7   definitions.

1   4.   The method of claim 3; further comprising the steps of:

2   responsive to user selection of a zoom out action in

3   connection with a selected process point, determining

4   if said selected process point is zoomable; and, if so

5   highlighting in a new navigation space the zoomed to

6   process point.

1   5.   The method of claim 1, further comprising the steps of:

2   responsive to user selection of a create process

3   action, accepting and storing a 3-tuple and process

4   definition.

1   6.   The method of claim 5, further comprising the steps of:

2   responsive to user selection of a process edit action

3   in connection with a selected process, displaying the

4   process definition corresponding to said selected

5   process for editing by said user.

1   7.   The method of claim 5, further comprising the steps of:

2   responsive to user selection of a run process action in

3   connection with a selected process, executing said

4   process.

1   8.   The method of claim 3, further comprising the steps of:

2   responsive to user selection of a zoom operation with

3   respect to a first process displayed in a first navigation

4   space in a first window, opening a second window to display

5   the zoomed to process space in a second navigation space,

6   and highlighting said first process point in said first

7   window.

1   9.   System for representing business processes, comprising:

2   a store containing for each of a plurality of processes

3   a 3-tuple including a noun, a verb and an attribute;

4   and

5   a display operable to display a selected process as a

6   point in navigation space.

1   10. A program storage device readable by a machine,

2   tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by a

3   machine to perform method steps for representing business

4   processes, said method steps comprising:

5   defining each of a plurality of processes as a 3-tuple

6   including a noun, a verb and an attribute; and

7   displaying a selected process as a point in navigation

8   space.

1   11. An article of manufacture comprising:

2   a computer usable medium having computer readable

3   program code means embodied therein for displaying

4   representations of business processes, the computer

5   readable program means in said article of manufacture

6   comprising:

7   computer readable program code means for causing a

8   computer to effect defining each of a plurality of

9   processes as a 3-tuple including a noun, a verb and an

10   attribute; and

11   computer readable program code means for causing a

12   computer to effect displaying a selected process as a

13   point in navigation space.